

## Alexandria Gazette.

HURD DAY EVEN N. 1 FEB. 4. 1887.

## WHY HOUND WAITED.

The Story Is Told In the Sculptor's Statue of Washington.

One of the most valuable and interesting collections of colonial relics in existence is in the state library at Richmond.

The greatest treasure in the collection is the marble statue of Washington, by Houdon. It possesses the merit of being the only effigy that remains of Washington that was actually taken from life. The statue conveys a very distinct idea of Washington, different in many respects, however, from the familiar portraits which for the most part are copies of the same original. In 1784, five years before the adoption of the federal constitution, the general assembly of Virginia ordered this statue.

When the statue was provided for, Thomas Jefferson happened to be in Paris, and he engaged Houdon as the sculptor, because, as he afterward said, "He is, without a rivalship, the first statuary of his age, as the proof of which he received orders from every country for things intended to be capital." Houdon received 1,000 English guineas, a trifle over \$5,000. Besides, the expense of the journey from France to Virginia was paid, and his life was insured during his absence from France at the cost of the general assembly. Houdon left Paris in August, 1785. In October he reached Mount Vernon. He was treated with great consideration by Washington until the formality of his first meeting was over.

Houdon made known no desire to get to work at the statue, and it is believed that Washington's hospitality grew a trifle cold before the sculptor really set about the work for which he had come over the sea. One morning while the family, of which Houdon had become temporarily a member, was seated at breakfast, a message was brought to Washington, informing him that a pair of carriage horses had been brought for his inspection, he having made known his desire to purchase a team. Washington left the table presently and went outside. Houdon followed. After a moment's close inspection Washington asked the price of the animals.

"One thousand dollars," was the reply.

"One thousand dollars!" said Washington, in amazement.

"Ah, I have him! I have him!" broke in Houdon gleefully. He hurried away and began work on the statue industriously, and so it is supposed that the expression preserved on the statue at Richmond is the one that appeared on the face of Washington when he learned of what he considered an exorbitant price for the span of horses. With the knowledge of this little incident in seeing the statue, it is not hard to believe that Houdon "had him" in truth, and kept him, for there is an expression of surprise on the face and the lips are compressed. It seems that Houdon, after he got the inspiration he had been waiting for, pursued the work faithfully, gaining Washington's interest and good will by his perseverance and industry.—Harper's Weekly.

## Great Girl.

"Greatest girl at our boarding house you ever saw," declared Quirkly, with a giggle. "Never says what you expect her to say, and you'd be disappointed if she did, after hearing her."

"Dry goods clerk sits opposite her, and asked the other day if she really thought there were bargains in the matrimonial lottery. 'Of course there are,' she answered with a laugh. 'I myself have been marked down from 35 to 25.'"

"Old bachelor that sits next to her at the table spilled his ice cream in her lap. She never screamed nor ran away, but effusively took him by the hand and congratulated him on the coolness of the entire proceeding."

"Dude boarder had the nerve to propose to her, and she took half an hour explaining to him how it was all she could possibly do to support her mother and herself. When she thought of taking on any more obligations, she would certainly have another talk with him. The chump went around telling it, proud as a turkey gobbler."

"Real estate fiend wanted to sell her a lot for twice what it was worth. She closed the deal by offering to take half his commission and give him a quit claim to the lot. He still scratches his head and looks at her from the corners of his eyes."

"Think of laying my own fortune at her feet. Haven't the slightest idea that she will accept, and for that very reason am inclined to think that she will."—Detroit Free Press.

## Human Nature.

The Next Door Neighbor—Just finished painting your fence, eh? Why don't you put a sign on it to warn people?

The Householder—Sh! If I did, every passerby would want to see if the sign spoke the truth. It'll have a chance to dry now.—Pearson's Weekly.

CHEVROT SHIRTINGS in short ends, light colors, very cheap, at A. C. SLAYMAKER'S.

100 DOZEN CANS of new pack SUGAR CORN for sale by J. C. MILBURN.

GOOD STRONG WAGONS of all sizes, for boys, at lowest prices at A. C. SLAYMAKER'S.

## A POSTER TRAGEDY.

A purple moment of bright blue bliss  
When from your lips a yellow kiss  
I stepped in the dark red shade.

The eart moon hung on a tree,  
We sat by a vertical brook.  
You were a laughing in olive pink gloe  
And reading the edge of a book.

And I was singing a lavender song,  
Speckled and mingled with blue,  
But I stopped for a moment, perhaps not too long,  
And kissed you, I took perhaps two.

By the red hills topped with golden snow,  
By the trees tearing holes in the sky,  
I swore the red world I would overthrow  
For your love, or lie down and die.

But away from my vow I was rudely snatched  
And thrust far, far from you.  
The color I wore with the landscape matched,  
And that would, alas! never do.

And now among the blue hills aloft  
On a sea of brown and red  
I sit on the edge of an olive green boat  
And hold my pea green head.

—London Figaro.

## DRUGGISTS.

ESTABLISHED 1792.

E. S. LEADBEATER, C. C. LEADBEATER.

E. S. LEADBEATER, JR., J. LEADBEATER.

E. S. LEADBEATER &amp; SONS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS.

105 and 107 south Fairfax street.

Dealers in Drugs, Chemicals, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Dye Stuffs, Spices, Druggists' Fancy Goods and Specialties.

Wholesale Agents in Northern Virginia for J. C. Ayer's Medicines and John L. Leach &amp; Co's United States and Foreign Patents, &amp;c.

Manufacturers of Standard Pharmaceutical Preparations.

We have made large additions to our stock and are buying leading Proprietary Articles.

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## PENNsylvania RAILROAD.

In effect January 18th, 1886.

TRAINS LEAVE ALEXANDRIA.

For Washington, 7:25, 8:00, 10:25 A. M. week days.

Sundays 7:25 and 10:25 A. M., 7:20 and 10:25 P. M.

For Richmond and the South-Atlantic Coast Line Express, 10:45, 11:15 A. M. daily.

For Richmond and the South-Atlantic Coast Line Express, 10:45, 11:15 A. M. daily.

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